

REMARKS

The Examiner subjected claims 1 - 25 to an election requirement. The Examiner stated the application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention:

1. Species I - energy source being a microwave source; and
2. Species II - energy source being an infrared source.

The Examiner further required Applicant under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable and stated that no claims where generic.

Applicant has elected Species I for prosecution on the merits. Applicant has accordingly canceled dependent claims 8, 20, and 25, which were directed to Species II.

Furthermore, independent claims 1, 16, and 21 have been amended to include "an electromagnetic radiation source." Applicant respectfully submits that these independent claims are now generic and cover both a microwave source and an infrared source.

Applicant believes that the above remarks are fully responsive to the Office Action dated May 6, 2003. If the Examiner has any questions, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned by telephone at (408) 720-8300.



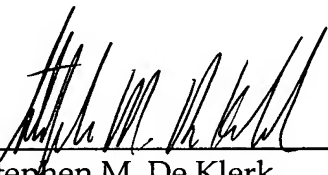
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT AUTHORIZATION

Please charge any shortages and credit any overages to Deposit Account
No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: August 1, 2003



Stephen M. De Klerk
Reg. No. 46,503

Customer No. 008791
12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300

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